

04 / INTERIORS

14 / NEW URBANISM

18 / ARCHITECTURE

26 / GASTRONOMY

28 / THE GOOD LIFE

32 / NEIGHBORS



Single starfish motif in Florentine finish with designer fabric shade and starfish finial Lamp | 2. Cornell Large Jug with Rope
 Sea Wall Decor - Material: Painted driftwood | 4. Sadie White Wooden Mirror | 5. Danton Arm Chair, Natural Ash, Material: Solid Beech Wood | 6. Liberte Round Side Table With Stick Base-White Base | 7. Indoor-Outdoor Crab motive pillow, Rain Collection | 8. ASSAM OTTOMAN. Material: Hand stitched in intricate mix of jute and denim | 9. Palermo wire lanterns



Salina Antique Amber Mercury Glass Pendant Light | 2. Chaz Collection - 100% Wool | 3. Lynne Glass Jugs - Set of 3
 Teak Root Natural Floor mirror | 5. Cedar creek - Resin Table lamp | 6. Crispin Acacia Wood Side Table | 7. Rania Copper Plated Stool | 8. Modern Artisan Kennewick Chair Dark Finish- Marca: Caracole | 9. Bretton Jars with Jute Handle

- www.casanova.cr | info@casanova.cr -



 $\text{INTERIORS} \cdot \textbf{06}$



Despite the nearly 15,000 miles between Atlanta, Georgia and Guanacaste, Costa Rica, Beth Webb's luxurious designs flawlessly translate into this tropical paradise's language of the good life. Beth has played a pivotal role in the design of several homes in Las Catalinas and is the primary visionary behind one of the most spectacular spaces on the block: Casa Brewer – the house created for Charles and Ginny Brewer, two of the original masterminds behind the sustainable beachfront community.

The Brewers purchased approximately 1,400 acres of land with the intention of building a new urbanist town and a beach house of their own. They imagined their Central American hideaway to be dressed in modern luxuries while still maintaining an aesthetic firmly rooted in natural materials and regional influences. As luck would have it, Beth Webb, an Atlanta-based interior designer, is fluent in timeless design and is always travel-ready.

Beth arrived to Costa Rica when the project was just beginning. She explained that the first time she set foot on the construction site "there was literally nothing there but beach and foundations." As a result, she has been able to participate in taking Las Catalinas from its early conception to what she describes as a "cool, vibrant community" on the Pacific coast of Costa Rica.

Las Catalinas is a Mediterranean-inspired pedestrian village composed of luxury resort homes, each with its own personality yet all representative of the good life, Las Catalinas-style. Creating within these parameters was a new undertaking for Beth, who is more accustomed to designing for the needs of a single family in a single space. This project required her to incorporate the identity of Las Catalinas while also maintaining the individuality of each home.









CREATING THE VIBE IN CASA BREWER

As with every installation in the town of Las Catalinas, Casa Brewer would become an outpost marked by casual elegance. In addition to its first-class comforts, the home is grounded in open-air spaces, pops of color, and a fresh vibe as restorative as the sea breeze that wafts through every corridor. In line with the Brewers' vision for their getaway home, Beth ensured that the design accommodated groups of all sizes.

Given the spacious floor plan of Casa Brewer, welcoming a crowd would never be a challenge, but finding the right aesthetic to fit any and every occasion was more challenging to achieve. In the end, Beth's dynamic design created a warm, friendly ambiance, underpinned by livable trappings and versatile spaces. With her help, the once bare bones of the house became a gathering space for friends and family, as well as a relaxing retreat.

OPTIMIZED FOR OUTDOOR LIVING

With an average annual temperature of 76 degrees Fahrenheit, Costa Rica practically pleads for windows and doors to be left wide open. During the dry season (November to April) residents at Casa Brewer enjoy low humidity and exceptional cross-ventilation throughout the entire home. Casa Brewer not only brings the outdoors in, it also invites daily living to be brought outside. Outdoor living areas are found throughout the property, which nearly doubles the space of the home.

Porches offer spectacular views of the sunset, an outdoor living room overlooks the Pacific Ocean on one side and their private courtyard and garden on the other. However, no space is more indicative of Beth's open-air initiative than Casa Brewer's outdoor dining room that abuts the majestic swimming pool and makes for what Beth describes as "pure theater, pure magic." "It's very lush, very tropical," says Beth, "You'll be sitting out there and the parakeets are flying by and in the wee hours of the morning you hear the howler monkeys. It's a lovely, beautiful, tranquil place to be."





BETH WEBB INTERIORS

• • •



425 PEACHTREE HILLS AVENUE SUITE IIB-4 ATLANTA, GA 30305 T:404.869.6367 E:BETH@BETHWEBB.COM W:BETHWEBB.COM



There's no better way to make a house a home in Las Catalinas than by creating bespoke handcrafted furnishings at the community's on-site Woodshop. Here residents can have one-of-a-kind fixtures designed and built by skilled carpenters using some of Costa Rica's finest reforested wood.

Filled with the smell of fresh sawdust and populated by over 45 craftsmen, the Woodshop is where a home's creative interiors come to life. Everything from furniture, cabinets, closets, hardwood floors, moldings, baseboards, doors, and window frames are shaped by the hands of dedicated local experts.

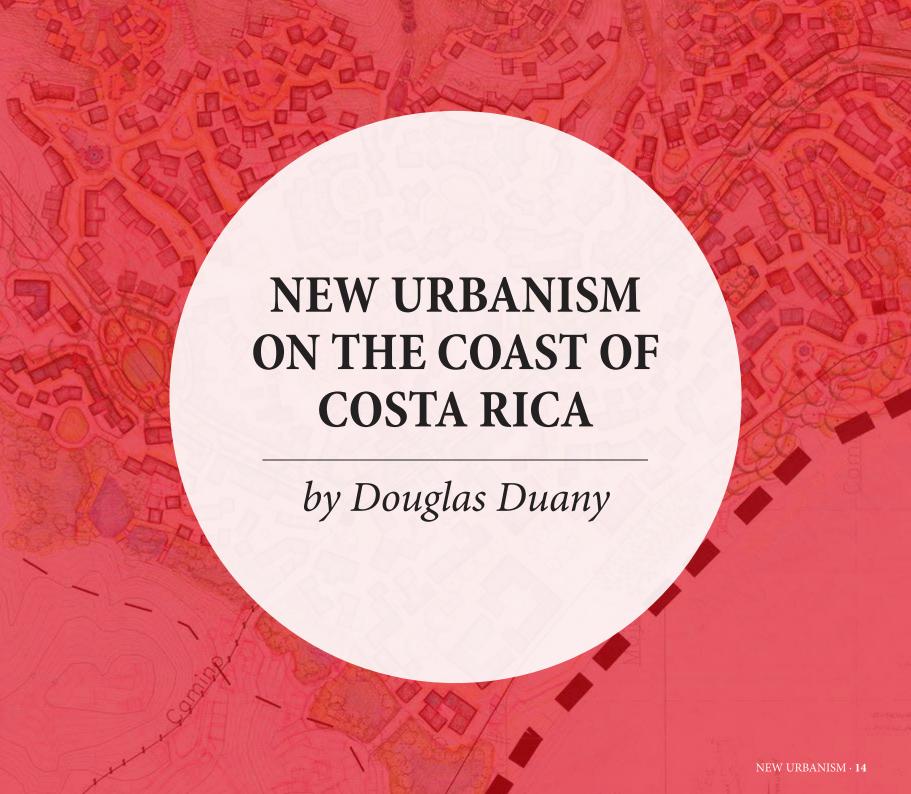




While carpenters are available for consulting, many homeowners come equipped with furniture specs, magazine photos and even hand-drawn designs on cocktail napkins. The talented artisans are able to translate the owners' distinctive vision into beautiful pieces of custom woodwork that satisfy their specific needs.



Las Catalinas is a town designed and outfitted unlike any other, thus it's only natural that each residence should have unique interiors that express every owner's personality and design aesthetic – and at the Woodshop one's imagination is the only limitation.





NEW URBANISM ON THE COAST OF COSTA RICA

Urban planners, civil engineers, architects, and designers have spent centuries searching for the blueprint of utopia – the ideal town. It is a centuries-long quest for the architectural Holy Grail and while such a blueprint is likely never to be found, a new architectural trend known as New Urbanism is claiming to have the next best thing. It is a fast-growing movement that has literally laid the foundation for the town of Las Catalinas.

This urban design movement prioritizes environmentally-friendly development, walkable neighborhoods and a diversity of intertwining private and public spaces. Core elements of New Urbanism seek to deliver on the unfulfilled promises of suburban life: pedestrian towns, mixed-use buildings settled into compact neighborhoods, harmony between private and communal spaces, and freedom from the stark trappings of a modern landscape. These communities are built upon principles of connectivity, sustainability, and quality of life, all packaged into what appears to be the quintessential neighborhood.

Charles Brewer, founder of Las Catalinas, envisioned a town that is transforming itself into a beacon for the New Urbanism movement, which is why he didn't hesitate to bring architect and New Urbanism expert, Douglas Duany, on board. Currently a professor at the University of Notre Dame, Duany has been involved in urban design projects in more than 10 countries and continues to play a pivotal role in the development of the Las Catalinas project.

"Las Catalinas is actually at the advanced front of New Urbanism," says Duany. It's highly responsive to topography, incorporates narrow streets and provides every house a view as well as relative privacy, all of which were special requests made by Charles Brewer from the outset of the project.

"Charles Brewer was very explicit about doing the best we could possibly do," according to Duany, who embraced the unbridled freedom to build a utopian new urbanism outpost. "There are few developers that are willing to do that and that's what makes bringing New Urbanism to Costa Rica so important."

While this architectural approach may have been new to Costa Rica, Duany points out that the New Urbanism design that gave way to Las Catalinas actually took its lead from the blueprints of Medieval Rome. Between the 5th and 15th centuries, Roman settlements prioritized the public realm, while at the same time intermingling public and private spaces with a range of elements, including: courtyards, loggias, main squares, a tower, and small houses or guest quarters. Such high density and low impact architecture "is a very advanced system," admits Duany, but it is also a system that allows for the greatest amount of green spaces for both environmental protection and personal enjoyment.

"New Urbanism is about inclusion: to create spaces where people can interact, where people aren't obligated to use cars, where they can walk with their children, their spouses, their friends, and cross paths with others on the way," says Jaime Rojas, director of infrastructure at Las Catalinas. "That sense of inclusion is the primary goal of the New Urbanism movement and part of what makes Las Catalinas unique from any other project in the country."

In addition to promoting social interaction, the city's landscape also prioritizes a harmonious and sustainable relationship between urban development and the natural environment, another pillar of the New Urbanism movement.

"The project aspires to be a model not only of urban planning, but also of environmental management," says Michael García, director of environmental services at Las Catalinas. That commitment to sustainability is evident from a brief walk through the town's green spaces, but is even more impressive when taking a look at the bigger picture.

Las Catalinas' property spans approximately 472 hectares (1,166 acres), of which only 20% is designated for construction. The remaining space is dedicated to the conservation and restoration of natural habitats as well as other environmental services. To ensure reforestation and water conservation, more than five-thousand native trees have been planted on hillsides and watersheds. More than 25 km of hiking trails and 22 km of bike trails have been hand-built with sustainable materials in order to reduce the environmental impact, conserve biodiversity, and control erosion and runoff.

Not only is Las Catalinas designed to foster an eco-friendly, socially-inclusive new twist on the urban experience, it is also committed to supporting local communities. "We are working with residents and municipalities to solve problems and overcome the challenges of this unique project, not simply supposing that we would develop this project on our own," says Rojas. Las Catalinas has also donated almost 4,000-square meters of land to the municipality of Santa Cruz and helped

transform an old police station in a nearby village into a children's public recreation center.

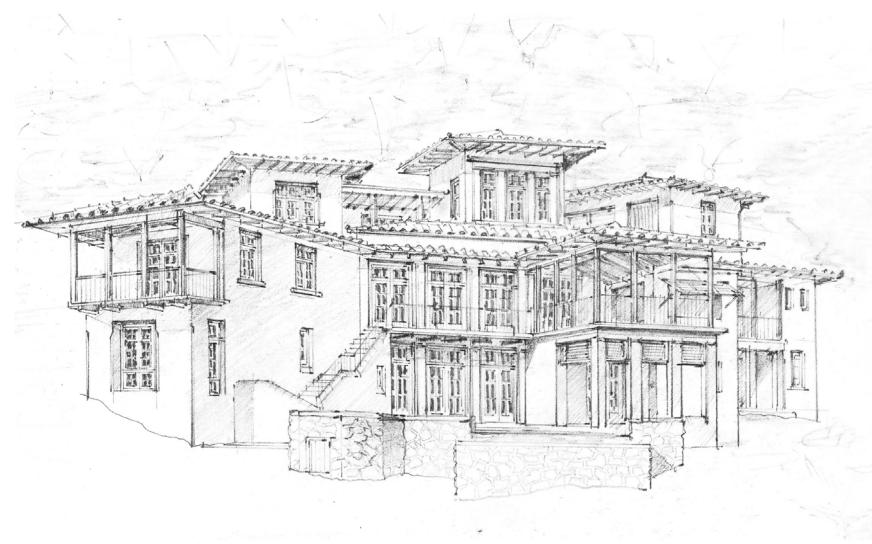
The beaches, the landscape, the environment, "is something that belongs to all of us," says García. From conception through execution, Las Catalinas strives to be a responsible and helpful neighbor and create a community that is in profound harmony with nature.

Perhaps Duany says it best:

"The model of Las Catalinas is literally a model, and it allows people to notice how new development can produce community. The resort should be understood as an ideal town."

RICARDO AROSEMENA

FROM AROSEMENA & SOUNDY ARQUITECTOS, PANAMA





"We aspire to create architecture that complements its context as opposed to disrupting it,

architecture that is rational, beautiful and will last for a very long time"

Architect Ricardo Arosemena, of Arosemena & Soundy Arquitectos in Panama, played a pivotal role in the look and landscape of Las Catalinas. Ricardo and his team embraced the challenge of designing custom vacation homes fine-tuned to their owners' vision, while at the same time creating a pedestrian-focused master plan that fosters social interaction and a strong sense of community.

"By applying a combination of best practices in the form of dense, walkable, small scale urbanism with modern concepts such as an appreciation and care for the natural environment, Las Catalinas serves as an example of the types of ways in which humans could inhabit our earth in a more sustainable, rational and enjoyable way," says Ricardo.

In fact, walkability is one of the architecture firm's primary missions. The studio is governed by a belief that the most successful buildings respond to the lives of the people who inhabit them and the things that they share in common with others. Their objective for Las Catalinas was to adhere to these architectural tenants, while seamlessly blending private and communal spaces, naturalism and urbanism, and traditional and modern design.

"It comes as a shock to most who visit Las Catalinas for the first time that many buildings are not accessible by automobile," says Ricardo, referencing the town's prominent New Urbanism design. While residents and guests may have to get used to abandoning their four wheels at the gates, Ricardo is confident that the town's walkways "set the stage for some magical spaces" and experiences – particularly for North Americans unaccustomed to such a lifestyle.

While pedestrian towns, mixed housing and connected neighborhoods may seem like a new concept, in many ways it's a nod to medieval European methods of urban planning. Arosemena & Soundy Arquitectos not only look to civilizations past for inspiration, they see all structures as creative fodder for an architect with a trained eye. Ricardo believes that every town, city and building is the cumulative expression of the cultures that constructed it over the course of history, each adding and subtracting elements in a flurry of quiet evolution.

There is a "language of architecture," he says, "which has developed throughout generations and with the combined efforts of people that worked together across time. We have our sights set on being a part of that continuum." And it seems with leading-edge projects such as Las Catalinas, Ricardo and his team most certainly are.



"We focus on designing buildings that are of a human scale, beautiful, lasting, useful, and at home in their surroundings."









CASA DE TOM · At Casa de Tom, residents can take a refreshing dip while gazing out at the Pacific Ocean on the horizon. It is one of the few pools in Las Catalinas that offers tremendous ocean vistas, which can be enjoyed from the edge of the infinity pool, or from a lounge chair in the adjacent courtyard. Next to the Plaza Rotonda, a stone fountain's gentle stream flows into the pool. When you're done with your swim, wrap up in a towel and make your way to a daybed in the living room that is only a few feet away.



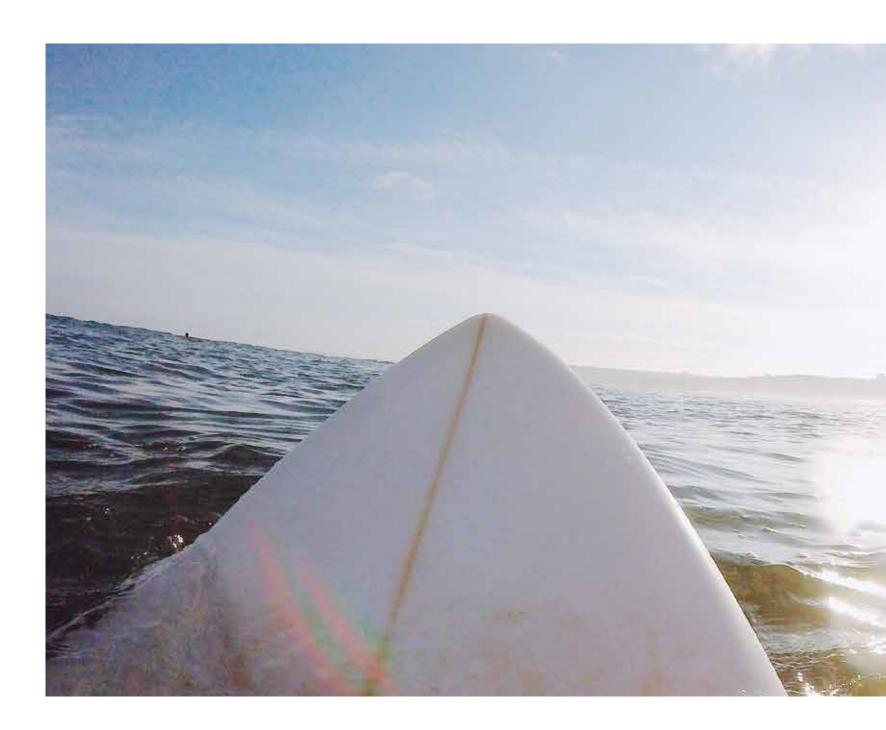
CASA SONRISA · The pool's sun shelf is bordered by an outdoor corridor and covered loggia, making it a seamless extension of Casa Sonrisa's vast outdoor living spaces. Dressed in turquoise Verde Tikal marble tile, the pool itself is almost as visually stunning as the grounds it overlooks. Four stone monkey statues adorn the pool's entrance, while the other three sides offer a stunning infinity-edge. The unique design of Casa Sonrisa's pool elegantly echoes the wilderness and wildlife that makes Costa Rica a beloved destination

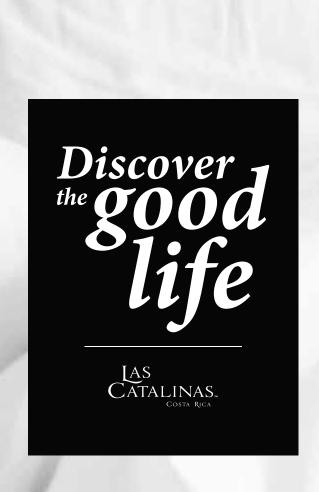


CASA ALBA · Designed by Arosemena & Soundy Arquitectos, the Casa Alba pool offers magnificent ocean views as well as direct access to the beach. Though, with the size and splendor of this private pool, it's not surprising that many guests can't pull themselves away. Hemmed by lush planters on multiple sides, the pool is nestled in greenery and provides a private alcove from the nearby Plaza Escondida. Tiled in Coralina stone, the outdoor space provides a fresh vibe and inviting place to cool off during day or night.



CASA BREWER · Step out onto Casa Brewer's courtyard and the expansive aquamarine swimming pool and outdoor hot tub are likely to lure you in for a dip. Dressed in Verde Tikal tile, and complete with a sun shelf, Douglas Duany's design of this serene space invites guests to idle poolside, lounge in the shade on built-in benches, swim laps, or enjoy a meal in the dining grotto that opens onto the picturesque pool and private garden.









AURORAE PALE ALE

Bitterness: 33.7 IBUs
Color: 6.8 SRM
Alcohol by Vol: 5.5 %
Calories: 175.5 kcal/12oz
Refreshing and hoppy, yet with sufficient supporting malt, this
Pale Ale is inspired by clear
Monteverde summer mornings.
Aurorae is an American adaptation
of English pale ale, reflecting indigenous ingredients; light in color, clean in fermentation by-products, and with a delicate citrus finish due to Lemon Balm added to the end of the boil.

DOS MARES INDIA PALE ALE

Bitterness: 66.6 IBUs
Color: 15.3 SRM
Alcohol by Vol: 6.5 %
Calories: 203.2 kcal/12oz
A decidedly hoppy and bitter,
moderately strong American
version of the historical English
style, brewed using American
ingredients and attitude. Dos
Mares is dry-hopped with
Cascade hops to add extra
floral aroma.

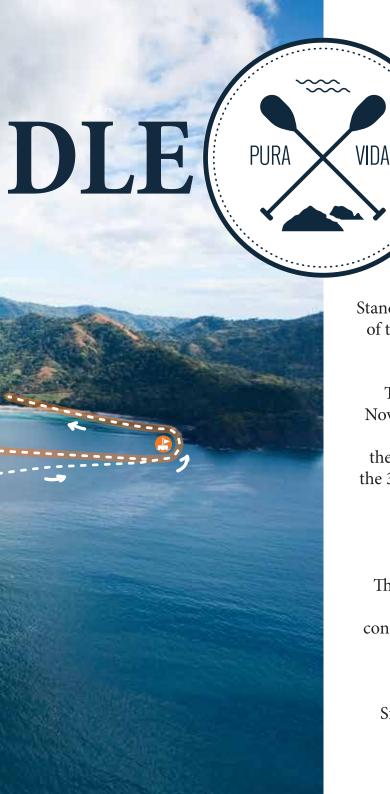


NUBOSA TROPICAL STOUT

Bitterness: 32 IBUs
Color: 46.8 SRM
Alcohol by Vol: 7.5 %
Calories: 213.7 kcal/12oz
Nubosa stout is Monteverde's
version of the Irish Foreign
Extra Stout, with a tropical
twist. High alcohol, strong
malt and roasted flavors with a
surprising drinkability. Great
for after a day hiking through
the cloud forest.







BATTLE

Las Catalinas is perched on some of Costa Rica's most coveted coastline, providing easy access to stunning beaches, dramatic cliffs, snorkeling honey holes, and secluded swimming spots – all within paddling range. Stand-up paddle boarding, known by insiders as SUP, is just one of the many reasons for catching a wave to Las Catalinas and is drawing the attention of the world's watersport community.

The Annual Pura Vida Ride Paddle Battle race took place on November 14th, 2015 at Las Catalinas in the picturesque bay at Playa Danta. The race consisted of two heats: the 9 km Elite Race, which wove through the island chain, and the 3.5 km sprint around buoys just off the main beach. The day finished with a tandem family race, which was an adult and child (or dog) paddling one lap around the buoy sprint course.

The Pura Vida Ride Paddle Battle is open to participants of all skill levels. Water enthusiasts can enjoy glassy smooth conditions in the protected bay of Playa Danta, or play with the pros on the surging swells of the Islotes Pitahayas, just a kilometer offshore.

Sixth Annual Pura Vida Ride Paddle Battle will take place on November 12th 2016.

TAMARA LENTZ

When it comes to SUP, Paddle Battle competitor Tamara Lentz is certainly considered one of the pros. On land, Tamara is a manager at Spyderboards in Hermosa Beach and mother to a 13-year-old boy. On the waves, she is a boarder with six years' experience surfing SUP and racing for half as long. Today she is a Hovie Board elite rider and surrounds herself with people who crave what Tamara refers to as 'ocean therapy.'

Here's what she has to share about her SUP experience:

What did you think of this year's Paddle Battle?

This year's Paddle Battle was amazing. The humidity and heat was unlike anything I've ever experienced before, but it was also one of the most memorable races I've ever competed in. I am really looking forward to next year's competition.

How did you first begin SUP boarding?

I rented a 10 ft. stand-up paddle board and headed right out into the surf. I don't know what happened exactly, but I instantly fell in love.

What's the best experience you've had in the water?

I've found that every day I get out on the water is the best experience. But if I had to narrow it down, I'd probably say that running into a school of dolphins and whales while surfing would rank near the top of the list.

The Paddle Battle Pro

What's been the most important thing this sport has taught you?

Above all, it's taught me how important it is to be patient and to have respect for those around you. The ocean is big, but in order to really enjoy it we all have to share the waves.

What has been the biggest challenge you have come across in this sport?

Ha, I guess that would be all the younger girls who are fast – faster, I should say. Sometimes competitions are organized into categories based on board length – rather than age. That means I may have to race against girls who are half my age, but it's all good fun.

What is the best advice you have been given?

It's simple: have fun in the water and strive to always do my best.

What are ideal paddle boarding conditions?

Paddle boarding is best done when the ocean is glassy, meaning the surface is smooth, still, and wind is minimal.

What would you recommend to paddle board novices?

Just be aware of what's around you and have fun. Look out in front of you and paddle, it's really that simple.



Kent Alexander

CASA TEJA, PASEO DEL MAR.

I love my wife Diane and our two daughters... and Costa Rica. Here in Atlanta I've enjoyed a wide-ranging legal career (law firm partner, U.S. Attorney, general counsel).

"But on vacation it's all about the Tico lifestyle."

I first visited Costa Rica over a decade ago on a father-daughter 10th birthday excursion. We traveled the country rafting, fishing, swimming and marveling at the wildlife for a solid week. The experience was magical, and I've been coming back ever since.

What is the Good Life for you? Body surfing, kayaking, hiking, strolling on the beach, watching sunsets, reading and listening to the surf, all while hanging out with family and friends.

Why Las Catalinas? After owning a condo in southern Guanacaste for several years, my wife and I got to know the region well. Our first place was wonderful, but in 2007 we walked the then-undeveloped Las Catalinas property with Charles Brewer and listened to his vision of a beach town. Both of us knew instantly we'd found our Costa Rican dream spot. We recruited close friends, Farooq and Bernadette Ashraf, to join us in designing and building Casa Teja. The rest has been pura vida history.

Define your house in 3 words. Oceanfront, open-air, uber-relaxing.

What book are you reading now? Elon Musk: Tesla, SpaceX, and the Quest for a Fantastic Future.

What are you having for dinner tonight? A Portobello mushroom club sandwich and 12-ounce Bud at the Atlanta Hawks game.

What project is taking up more of your time lately? I'm coauthoring a narrative nonfiction book on the 1996 Olympic domestic terrorist attack and Richard Jewell –

the hero-turned-suspect who gained international fame after discovering the deadly 40-pound bomb shortly before detonation. The event set in motion an extraordinary tale about the FBI, the media and the man in the middle.

Sunset is good with... Family, friends and Oregon Pinot. (My wife's from Oregon!)

Your favorite spot at Las Catalinas? The corner hammock on our upstairs balcony. It's as close as you can get to lounging on the beach with no sand underfoot.

What makes you happy? Any day I'm at Las Catalinas.

You can't leave Costa Rica without... Eating a bag of Plátanos Caribeños chips (the "plátanos verde con limón y sal" flavor). They are addictive!

Favorite word in Spanish? "Celajes" – the spectacularly beautiful, pastel-colored clouds in the sky just after sunsets.

A Pura Vida experience? Renting a kayak at Pura Vida Ride; paddling around Punta Penca to Sugar Beach; "parking" on the sand; and going to the rustic hotel bar with its wall-to-wall mirror for an old-school bottle of Coca-Cola. The reflection of the ocean and horizon is exquisite.

